

PATENT  
32860-000287/US

#4/a

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hubert De STEUR; Marcel HEERMAN; Josef Van PUymbroeck  
Int'l App. No.: PCT/DE00/03424  
Application No.: NEW  
Filed: March 29, 2002  
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR LASER DRILLING LAMINATES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

March 30, 2002

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract with the attached revised Abstract.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for the laser drilling of laminates which have at least one metal layer and at least one dielectric layer including an organic material, comprising:

using a frequency-doubled Nd vanadate laser having the following laser parameters,

pulse width < 40 ns,

pulse frequency  $\geq 30$  kHz for the metal layer and

$\geq 20$  kHz for the dielectric layer, and

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